

City of Socorro

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Get ready for summer!

If you're looking for something to do this summer, the City of Socorro has you covered, no matter what your age. City Employees from Park and Recreation to Socorro Public Library to the City Tourism Office have been planning activities to keep kids from pre-school through Senior Citizens active, and having fun all summer long.

Swim!

Parks and Recreation Department head Norbert Peralta says the pool will be open, and he's expecting 250-300 swimmers 7 days a week at the newly refurbished pool. Diedra Vinson and her staff of 9 lifeguards will be keeping an eye on swimmer safety from swim team practice (6:30 a.m.) to swimming lessons (10:00 a.m.) through noontime Senior lap swim to an afternoon of fun-in-the-sun (and in the water!) for all ages (from 1 to 5 p.m.).

Play ball!

John DeCosta, Jr. (everyone knows him as "Smiley") expects 23 kids' teams for this year's summer baseball program. There will be tee-ball for the wee ones, a pitching machine for those 6 and 7 years of age and kids 8 to 10 years old will be learning team skills that include pitching. Kids from 11 to 13 will be playing baseball.

And adults? If you aren't watching your own kids play, you might consider volunteering to coach, or play on one of the slow-pitch softball teams—usually 12 men's teams and 8 women's

teams. If spectating is more your style, come to Sedillo Park Monday through Thursday evenings and support your favorite team.

Read! (or watch a movie or use a computer or go to a meeting or win a bicycle or....)

Socorro Public Library Director Paula Mertz and her staff of 8 are BUSY. They have 3 floors to keep an eye on, not to mention 56,434 library items that regularly circulate among the nearly 8,900 regular library card users. Then there are those (about 1700 people a month) who come in to use one of the library's 9 public-use computers or who bring their laptops and tap into the wireless Internet available throughout the library.

Most people spend their time on the library's ground floor, but on the second floor is a meeting room that will seat 60-65 people that is loaned, free-of-charge, to not-for-profit groups and organizations. Even though the library proper closes at 6:45, the meeting room is accessible after hours.

One of the "after hour" meetings scheduled by the library itself is their monthly movie, the first Thursday night of the month. The library has purchased a movie user license with public viewing rights which allows them to show copyrighted movies to public audiences. In case you miss the show, you can always check it out.

And then there's the Summer Reading Program. Children's Librarian Jeanne Griffith and assistant Candy Smith are encouraging kids to "Catch the Reading Bug," with a variety of experiences

centering on one of kids' favorite subjects: bugs! "We like to give the kids incentive to keep reading over the summer, something to do that doesn't cost anything," says Griffith.

A myriad of activities await, from arts and crafts projects to a magic show, a storyteller, and more information about creepy crawlies than most adults know. Kids can sign up to participate starting June 2—and win a bicycle for their efforts.

For more information on all Socorro Public Library activities, bookmark this web page:

<http://www.adobelibrary.org>

Eat!

The Socorro Springs Open Golf Tournament is June 1-7. The City of Socorro, along with New Mexico Tech and Socorro Springs are sponsoring the tournament this year, and the public is invited to a social on the plaza on Friday night, June 6.

"In the past, the barbecue has been for the golfers, but we're expanding that this year and inviting the public," said Deborah Dean, Socorro Tourism Director. "That way the community can come out and enjoy it as well. There will be a beer tent, barbecue and live music." You can purchase a ticket for the barbecue at the Tech Golf Shop or at the Heritage Center across from the main fire station.

Do it all—and more!

Cindy Rivera will be busy this summer. As head of the summer kids' program at Finley Gym, she and her staff of 16 and 5 foster grandparents have been planning activities to keep kids learning and having fun all summer. For \$20/month per child (or \$40 per family) parents can be sure their children will be well-supervised while participating in a wide variety of activities ranging from sports (swimming, tennis,

volleyball, basketball) to field trips (the Zoo! Explora! Isotopes baseball!) to classes (English, math, reading) to just plain fun (Arts and Crafts! Theater! Fishing!). School buses will be used to transport the children both within the city and on the field trips.

"We make the program affordable so kids have a safe place to go but it doesn't use the family's whole paycheck," Rivera says. 200 children are registered for the program.



Cindy Rivera helps Kaitlyn Tellez decorate her arts and crafts project.

Employment Anniversaries

5 Years Cody Poston (June)

15 Years Barbara Scarborough (May)

City Council

Mary Ann Chavez-Lopez	Gordy Hicks
Toby Jaramillo	Donald Monette
Michael Olguin, Jr.	Ernest Pargas, Jr.
Peter Romero	Chuck Zimmerly
Ravi Bhasker, Mayor	
Pat Salome, City Clerk	